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OBSERVATIONS

PROVING THAT

Dr. Wilson's Tincture

FOR THE CURE OF

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM

IS SIMILAR, IN ITS NATURE AND EFFECTS,

TO THAT

Deleterious Preparation,

THE

EAU MEDICINALE.

By WILLIAM HENRY WILLIAMS, M.D. F.L.S.

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"The use of Quack Medicines should be discouraged by the Faculty, as disgraceful to the profession, injurious to health, and often destructive even of life."—PERCIVAL'S *Medical Ethics*.

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1818.

TO
THOSE MEDICAL MEN
WHO
CONSIDER EMPIRICISM
AS THE SOURCE OF INNUMERABLE EVILS,
AND
A DISGRACE TO SCIENCE AND A LIBERAL PROFESSION,
THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE INSCRIBED
BY
THE AUTHOR.

IPSWICH, 21st FEBRUARY, 1818.

PREFACE.

IN offering to the public the observations contained in this Pamphlet, I feel that I am actuated by a powerful sense of the duty I owe to that public, to point out the danger to which an indiscriminate use of Dr Wilson's Tincture may expose them.—That it has occasionally relieved Gouty and Rheumatic subjects from immediate pain, I do not hesitate to admit ; but the ultimate consequences of its use are generally so injurious, that momentary relief, I am persuaded, is often dearly purchased at the hazard of undermining the constitution, perhaps, of destroying life itself.

The situation in which I am placed in society precludes me, I trust, from any imputation of an interested nature in giving publicity to my opinions,—for if I could divest myself of the feeling, with which the regular practitioner of medicine must invariably regard quackery in every shape, the success or failure of Dr. Wil-

son's Tincture, as far as it concerns me individually, must be a matter of perfect indifference.

It may not be unnecessary to point out to some of my readers, that the literal translation of the French term *Eau Medicinale* is *Medicinal Water*,*—on the efficacy of which, in the cure of Gout and Rheumatism, Dr. Wilson published a small Pamphlet in May, 1813, which was succeeded four years afterwards by as strong a recommendation of his Tincture for the cure of similar diseases, in a work entitled “Observations on Gout and Rheumatism.” That these three preparations, viz. the Eau Medicinale, the Medicinal Water, and Dr. Wilson's Tincture, are one and the same medicine in their nature and effects, I trust the following pages will prove as satisfactorily to my readers, as the conviction of it is impressed upon my own mind.

* Dr. Wilson having stated in his pamphlet on Medicinal Water, that after “repeated experiments,” he could at length very confidently assure himself, that he had discovered the “*great arcanum*” of the Eau Medicinale d' Husson, adds in the following page:—“The *Medicinal Water*, in the dose proposed, is equal in strength to that of Mons. Husson. The taste, smell, and appearance, will be found *very similar*; and if *any small* variation may be detected, it arises *chiefly* from the *slight* difference in the menstruum employed for obtaining the infusion. *Its operative effects will be found precisely similar*; these I have watched with most unceasing attention.—It is perfectly unnecessary to point out to the profession, Dr. Jones's very excellent and instructive account of the *remarkable efficacy* of the Eau Medicinale d' Husson, in alleviating the pain, preventing or dissipating the inflammation, and shortening, most astonishingly, the duration of a paroxysm of the Gout. *The effects mentioned by him, I have observed to follow the exhibition of my preparation most unwerringly.*”

Observations on Medicinal Water, by C. Wilson, M. D. p. 3, 4, 5.

In consideration of that feeling of reluctance, which almost universally prevails among persons, to appear publicly as proofs of the failure of any particular medicine, especially in those cases wherein controversy may attend them, I have with-held the names, and partly the residence of the individuals to whom several of the following facts refer ;—but I pledge myself for the accuracy of the instances I have stated, which are well known to many respectable persons in this town and neighbourhood.

I offered my opinion to the public on the subject of Gout Medicines in general, and of Dr. Wilson's Tincture in particular, in a Letter to the Editor of *The SUFFOLK CHRONICLE*, signed OBSERVATOR, in November last—the reply to that Letter, three weeks subsequently, in an “Appeal to an Intelligent and Impartial Public,” has induced me to enter more fully into the subject;—the result of my further enquiry and experience will be found in the following pages, in which I have inserted both the Letter of OBSERVATOR, and the Appeal which that Letter produced.

With these preliminary remarks, I submit the justice of my opinions to a candid public.

OBSERVATIONS, &c.



I addressed the following Letter to the Editor of *The SUFFOLK CHRONICLE* on the 21st of November, 1817 :—

“ CAUTION

“ TO THE GOUTY, THE RHEUMATIC, AND THE UNWARY.

“ The new specifics for Gout and Rheumatism, which are sold under various names and forms, and which consist principally (however disguised) of the *Colchicum Autumnale*, or Meadow Saffron, are not once a reproach to the age in which we live, and a disgrace to humanity and science! Indeed the public safety, in my opinion, requires that such specifics should be snatched from the hands of a set of Empirics, who, elated with the novelty attendant upon their occasional operation by suddenly relieving Gouty and Rheumatic pains, and intoxicated with the idea of enormous profits arising from the sale of them,* have been scattering through the nation these dangerous and poisonous drugs like firebrands among the Philistines!”

Medicus (Cantab :) on Empiricism.

“ * These Medicines, which cost the Proprietors only a few shillings per quart, are sold at the rate of £25 for that quantity !!



“ MR. EDITOR—A sense of duty to the public induces me to address you on the prevalence of Quackery, and more especially that part which is so forcibly animadverted upon in the motto prefixed to my Letter, with the Author of which motto I am well acquainted—and to state in a brief, but conspicuous point of view, the degree of confidence to be placed in the Advertisements which occasionally appear in the public prints, wherein magnificent promises of cure for Gout and Rheumatism, at a *cheap* rate, allure the unwary to hazard a future or more more serious disease, for the *chance* of momentary relief.

"I will adduce, Mr. Editor, a few instances which have fallen under my own observation of the effects of Dr. Wilson's celebrated Tincture, which may act as a caution to the public against its indiscriminate use, however successfully it may occasionally have been administered.

"Dr. Wilson asserts that 'one dose of 30 to 60 drops of the Tincture removes the most agonizing pain of Gout and Rheumatism in a few hours, and a single repetition effectually cures the complaint; that it affords a powerful relief in the Lumbago,' &c. see Dr. Wilson's advertisement in *The Suffolk Chronicle*, November 8th.

"But what says the *fact* which occurred to a Reverend Gentleman of this Town in the month of October last? In a severe attack of Rheumatic Gout, accompanied with Lumbago, he was very anxious to try Dr. Wilson's Tincture, 30 drops of which produced no sensible effect; but a second trial of the same quantity, after an interval of 24 hours, occasioned so distressing a sickness and languor, which continued nearly a period of 48 hours, without the *least remission of pain whatever*, but rather an *increase* of Lumbago, that the patient declared he would rather hazard the consequences of the disease than submit to a repetition of the Medicine.

"To refute Dr. Wilson's further assertion, that his Tincture 'corrects morbid secretions of the stomach, promotes appetite and digestion, improves the general health, and is so very easy and gentle in its operation, that persons very young, aged, or infirm may take it with perfect safety,' allow me to relate a circumstance which happened on Tuesday last to two Gentlemen in this Town, who wishing to ascertain with what vegetable bitter Dr. Wilson's Tincture was combined, after having tasted it three or four times, experienced, in the course of an hour or two a most distressing nausea, so that the one was obliged to have recourse to an emetic to remove it; and even after its operation, felt for several hours a sensation of dizziness in the head, with great faintness. The other Gentleman was similarly affected, but less severely. Both were in perfect health previously to their having tasted the Tincture.

"Alexander Trallian, a Greek Physician of the 6th century, speaking of the Colchicum, says, '*it has this bad property, that it disposes them who take it to be more frequently attacked with the disease.*'—(Trans.) *Alex. Trallian*, chap. xi.

"Dr. Woodville's Medical Botany, one of the most able works of the kind perhaps in England, page 484, has this observation. Barou Stoerch, an eminent Physician at Vienna, alluding to the great acrimony of the Colchicum Root, asserts 'that even a single grain in a crumb of bread, taken internally, produced a burning heat in the stomach and bowels, urgent strangury, tenesmus, choleric pains, cephalalgia, hiccup,' &c.

"In addition, Mr. Editor, to these well authenticated opinions, and my own actual observations, I shall quote the following statement from the Monthly Report of Diseases in London, by the candid and extensive practitioner, Mr. Want, late Surgeon to the Northern Dispensary. 'It is painful,' he says, 'to record an instance of death from the imprudent administration of Colchicum in a case of Rheumatism, occurring in one of our London Hospitals: too large a dose had been given through the carelessness of the nurse, which produced constant vomiting and purging, with agonizing pain

in the stomach and bowels, for the space of twenty-four hours, until the patient was relieved from his sufferings by death.—I cannot too often caution the public against the use of this insidious and potent drug; and feel the more regret as I was the first to make known its powers in the removal of the paroxysm of Gout: though the readers of the Monthly Magazine must ever bear in mind that I have stated in the most distinct terms, that it was a medicine *not* to be trusted in the hands of the public. The Tinctures sold by *Wilson*, *Reynolds*,* and *Hyden*, are prepared according to my prescription for making the French medicine, and possess the power of relieving the pain of Gout, but *sooner or later bring innumerable evils to the credulous patient.*—See *Monthly Magazine* for this month.

“*Ipswich, November 21, 1817.*”

“OBSERVATOR.”

In consequence of the above Letter, the following Address appeared in *The SUFFOLK CHRONICLE* three weeks afterwards, intended, no doubt, as a defence against the objections to Dr. Wilson's Tincture in the Letter of OBSERVATOR.

“TO AN INTELLIGENT AND IMPARTIAL PUBLIC.

“An article having appeared in *The SUFFOLK CHRONICLE* of the 22d of November, which, under the specious pretence of cautioning the unwary, contains an unjust and illiberal attack on Dr. Wilson's Tincture, he considers it as due, equally to the public and himself, to submit the following observations.

“A series of numerous experiments have afforded to Dr. Wilson the most ample proof that the popular Medicines for the Gout are in reality three, the *Colchicum Autumnale*, the *Eau Medicinale*, and his own Tincture.

“Of the *Colchicum* he has already published his opinion in his Treatise on the Gout and Rheumatism, and he has no disposition to controvert the assertions of Mr. Want, as to the deleterious qualities of that drug. He cannot, however, forbear expressing his wonder, that Mr. Want, while he thus condemns the *Colchicum*, should in fact recommend its indiscriminate use, by placing a preparation, of which it is the basis, in the hands of every vender of medicines.—The *Eau Medicinale*, though bearing, in many of its properties, a close affinity to Mr. Want's prescription, is yet essentially different in its active ingredient. Dr. Wilson feels himself competent to make this assertion, having dis-

“* An Attorney, the proprietor also of an *infallible* remedy for the Gout, now living at Enfield, admitted in conversation lately, that he had recourse to his own *Specific* for Gout, with which he was afflicted, and, ‘that instead of one fit *annually*, he was visited with one every *two months*, but that he was more able to bear them in consequence of their being milder. He complained much of the illiberal remarks which Dr. Wilson had made on his Medicine in his Treatise on Gout, and declared that no chemist could analyse his Remedy, and that he had taken Wilson's Tincture without any benefit.’—*Letter on Colchicum*, by James Forbes, M. A., Cheltenham.”

covered the true nature and composition of the Eau Medicinale as early as August, 1811 (two years and 11 months before Mr. Want announced his *supposed* discovery) and submitted the results of his experiments, in the course of the ensuing year, to Sir Joseph Banks, Dr. Jones, Dr. Curry, and to the Professors of Botany, Medicine, and Therapeutics, in the University of Edinburgh, who all agreed in the reality of the discovery.—*Dr. Wilson's Tincture* was discovered about the same time, but he did not make much use of it till a few months after, when he was induced to employ it in his practice, from the various evil consequences which have been stated to result from the exhibition of the Eau Medicinale. His own immediate observation, and the information he has derived from a most extensive correspondence, have combined to convince him of the immense advantages resulting from this change, as scarcely any instances have occurred in which his Tincture has failed of its effects, and none in which it has been attended with deleterious consequences, when administered according to his directions. The case of the Rev. Gentleman alluded to, is no exception to this observation, as Dr. Wilson has no doubt, if OBSERVATOR has rightly named the disorder, that the only cause of failure was the want of perseverance in taking the Medicine in smaller doses, as directed in his Treatise, pages 126, 127. Had those directions been pursued, the patient, instead of enduring that protracted torture which he owes to the timidity of himself or his adviser, would have experienced that *cheap* recovery which OBSERVATOR so feelingly deprecates,

“The story of the *Tasters* is too childish to deserve refutation. Dr. Wilson intended his Tincture for the cure of the afflicted, not for the amusement of gentlemen in perfect health, who, probably, after tasting, for the sake of comparison, of a variety of deleterious substances, might have the sagacity to discover that the unpleasant sensations they experienced, were solely to be ascribed to the Tincture. Hundreds and thousands have tasted the Tincture without finding such unpleasant effects; and it is sufficiently known, that a strong prejudice against any thing which has been taken, is capable of exciting the sense of nausea.

“As no particle of the Colchicum is found in Dr. Wilson's Tincture, the observations of *Medicus*, of *Alexander Tralles*, of *Baron Storerch*, and of *Mr. Want*, fall harmless to the ground. That effects of a very different kind belong to Dr. Wilson's Tincture, he can prove by references the most numerous and respectable. The Right Hon. Lord Anson, who was long a martyr to the Gout, is so well convinced, from his own personal experience, of the value and safety of the Tincture, that he observes, in a letter of the 13th ult. ‘I have been in the habit of taking the Medicine almost constantly from 20 to 30 drops at going to bed. It has certainly kept off any severe attack of the Gout, and my constitution does not seem to suffer from having taken it so frequently.’ This extract is not inserted that others may imitate his Lordship's example, but that *the tasting gentlemen* may have the comfortable assurance that their lives are not endangered by their maganimous experiments.

“The Hon. and Rev. Mr. Strangways, whose communication is inserted in Dr. Wilson's Treatise, page 203, says, in a letter to the author, very recently received, ‘I hear every one speaking in approbation of your Tincture, and (what seldom happens, even to perfection itself) I have never heard one word said against it.’

“Dr. Reece, who has long used the Tincture in his extensive practise, observes in his *Gazette of Health*, for the present month, ‘Mr. Want's assertion that Dr. Wilson's Tincture is a preparation of

the Meadow Saffron, we suspect is not correct. We do not find that it contains the Meadow Saffron in the smallest quantity, and its effects, in gouty subjects, as we have already observed, are very different to those produced by Mr. Reynold's or Mr. Heyden's preparations, or by the Eau Medicinale.*

"Dr. Wilson is prevented only by the limits of an advertisement, from adducing a variety of other testimonies, which he hopes to take some early opportunity of communicating to the public.

"Dr. Wilson intends to be at Ipswich on Friday and Saturday, the 19th and 20th days of the present month, when he may be consulted at the *Great White Horse Inn*; or will give his personal attendance, if required.

"*Yoxford, December 10th, 1817.*"

The principal points of this appeal may be thus answered. Dr. Wilson asserts that "the three popular medicines for the Gout are the Colchicum Autumnale, the Eau Medicinale, and his own Tincture;" but popularity is a poor and delusive test of merit, if we found its claim on the "pernicious and fatal effects" which Dr. Wilson himself ascribes to the two former preparations. Of the third, namely, the Tincture, I may declare, with equal truth, from my own observations on its effects, that it *sometimes proves inefficacious, often violent, and occasionally fatal*—instances of which I shall adduce in the following pages. It is conceded by Dr. Wilson, with what view the public will judge, that two of these "popular medicines" are clearly mischievous: he avows that he "discovered the true nature and composition of the *Eau Medicinale*, as early as *August, 1811*;" that he discovered the Tincture "about the same time," and congratulates himself on the "immense advantages" arising from its superior efficacy. To what circumstance then shall we attribute the Doctor having published in May 1813, that "the *Medicinal Water* continued to support its high character of extraordinary efficacy, in regular paroxysms of Gout and Rheumatism,"*—and that he "plumed himself" on being instrumental in diffusing the

* Observations on Medicinal Water, page 29.

benefits of the Medicinal Water, or Eau Medicinale at a cheap rate in 1813;* when not one word was offered in favour of the Tincture, although he had ascertained its *superior efficacy* two years previously? *At what time* did Dr. Wilson announce to the public the discovery of his Tincture? *At the very period* when, by a general conviction of the pernicious effects of the Eau Medicinale, its sale, by *that name*, became comparatively nothing. *Immediately* Dr. Wilson had recourse to the ingenious stratagem of discarding the Medicinal Water, and strenuously recommending a Tincture, which is a similar preparation, and, *bona fide*, the Eau Medicinale. If the Tincture and the Eau Medicinale were discovered by him at the same time, as Dr. Wilson declares, and he then considered the effects of the latter as pernicious or fatal, why did he delay to announce the Tincture; or why did it remain unknown till the Eau Medicinale became unpopular and almost unsaleable? The obvious solution of this mystery is, that the Tincture, in substance and in truth, is the Eau Medicinale; which at once removes the difficulty and inconsistency of the Medicinal Water having been strongly recommended by Dr. Wilson in 1813, though the "*immense advantages*" of the Tincture were discovered by his own acknowledgment in 1811!—but I shall enter more fully upon this subject hereafter. Dr. Wilson next asserts, that he submitted the results of his experiments, in the course of the ensuing year, to the Professors of Botany, Medicine, and Therapeutics, in the University of Edinburgh. What conclusions shall be drawn from this assertion, after a perusal of the following letter, which was transmitted to me, from an eminent Physician at Edinburgh, by a Gentleman, to whom I wrote upon the subject, observing that I supposed Dr. Wilson to be a Graduate of that University?

* Observations on Medicinal Water, page 28.

“ ——— STREET, JAN. 19, 1818.

“ MY DEAR SIR—You will be surprized at your Letter of the 7th remaining so long unanswered, but the truth is that I have been confined to bed, and unable to write. I have consulted all the Professors whom Dr. Wilson has mentioned in his advertisement, and I have their authority to say, that they *never heard of him or his Medicine*.—This intelligence you may convey to your Correspondent when you please, on my authority.

“ I am, my dear Sir, yours truly,

“ To William M———, Esq. ——— Square.”

In respect to the case of the Clergyman alluded to, his disorder was accurately ascertained by competent judges, perhaps not inferior to Dr. Wilson, and the violent effects of the Tincture were so far from being caused by inattention to the directions furnished by Dr. Wilson, that the dose was administered from the printed instructions affixed to each bottle.

The unpleasant effects experienced after tasting the Tincture could not have arisen from the “variety of deleterious substances” taken at the same time, as the gentlemen alluded to tasted only the Tincture—“prejudice” could not have occasioned the nausea, as neither of them had an idea that the small quantity taken (perhaps 10 drops) *could* have produced such an effect; and as they separated soon after the trial of the Tincture, and met no more until after each had experienced similar effects, both being previously in good health, they very naturally attributed to the Tincture *only* the unpleasant sensations excited.

It suits the Doctor’s purpose, however, to treat the fact with incredulity and levity—and he tells us with great emphasis, that his Tincture was designed for the afflicted, and not for gentlemen in perfect health. True—I grant that no man who was not deeply afflicted by a

malady of great anguish, and who was not impatient of recovery, would resort to advertised nostrums—but does Dr. Wilson mean gravely to assert that the composition and effects of a medicine cannot be ascertained from being exhibited to persons in health? His surmise, that the gentlemen might have tasted other deleterious substances by way of comparison, is contrary to the fact—and the premises failing, the conclusion is without foundation.

With regard to Dr. Wilson's assertion that no particle of the Colchicum is to be found in his Tincture, it is a well known fact, strengthened by the authority of the most celebrated chemists of the age, that it is impossible to ascertain by chemical analysis the specific and constituent parts of any vegetable infusion or Tincture. Here, therefore, Dr. Wilson may feel himself secure against positive detection—but what says Mr. Want in his monthly report of diseases in London? "The Tinctures prepared by Wilson, Reynolds, and Hyden are prepared according to my prescription for making the French Medicine or Eau Medicinale, which is a vinous preparation of the Colchicum."

In addition to this suggestion, I adduce the following remarkable fact:—At the village of Charsfield, about 15 miles from Yoxford—Dr. Wilson's residence—the Colchicum grows luxuriantly. A labouring man, living in the neighbourhood, has been in the habit for several years past of receiving orders to collect large quantities of the Colchicum Root, and to carry it on stated days to certain assigned places in and about Kettleburgh, a village somewhat nearer Yoxford. Here the collection of Colchicum is met at different times, by persons resembling, I am told, Dr. and Mrs. Wilson, who receive the Col-

chicum, pay the stipulated price, and drive off towards Yoxford. The labourer affects total ignorance of the person who sends him the order to gather the Colchicum, and the receivers of it.

Now these circumstances are not I feel conclusive, but connected with and strengthened by the facts and observations previously mentioned, I think I may safely assert that they amount to a body of the strongest presumptive evidence; besides, if the Colchicum were not designed for a medicine which was kept "a secret," what can be the reason of this clandestine mode of procuring it? Were it designed for the regular practitioner, why all this parade of secrecy? If it were not intended for some vender of a secret medicine in the neighbourhood of Yoxford, why is it not transmitted by the ordinary conveyance, and even addressed to a feigned name? Because, in a small place like Yoxford, a feigned name would soon be discovered: whereas if it were proposed to be sent to London, Bristol, Bath, or any populous Town, the arrangement might easily be made with all the requisite secrecy, without having recourse to the unknown receivers. For what purpose has secrecy been employed, but that the fact of Dr. Wilson using the plant should not transpire and lead to its discovery?

Dr. Wilson announcing his intention of being at the *Great White Horse, Ipswich*; on the 19th and 20th December, for the purpose of consultation, was the only measure required to complete the system of Quackery, which his previous inundation of advertisements in the public papers had begun.

Having answered the material points in Dr. Wilson's Appeal "*to an intelligent and impartial public*," I shall recur to the subject of the

similarity of the two medicines, upon which I engaged to dilate more fully.

Dr. Wilson's Tincture may escape positive detection—in other words, no man may be able to establish with mathematical demonstration, the ingredients of the nostrum; but enough will be shewn, whereon to found the conviction of any disinterested person, that the Medicinal Water and the Tincture are in substance and effect one and the same medicine.

That the composition of the Medicinal Water and the Tincture was discovered about the same time, *viz.* 1811, we have Dr. Wilson's own authority for believing; * that he continued his eulogy on the Medicinal Water, *notwithstanding* his conviction of *its pernicious tendency* two years after he had discovered the superior qualities of the Tincture, his publication of a pamphlet in 1813, entitled “Observations on Medicinal Water” satisfactorily proves. To account for this apparent inconsistency, and want of feeling towards Gouty and Rheumatic sufferers, I have presumed the two medicines to be of the same composition, and have stated a reason for the Tincture remaining unknown to the public, until Dr. Wilson found it more advantageous to himself to produce it as a substitute for the Medicinal Water.

In his pamphlet dated May 1813, on the Medicinal Water, *eight cases* of Gout and Rheumatism are stated to have been *cured* by the *Medicinal Water*, or Eau Medicinale; and in his “Observations on Gout” dated 1817, he introduces the *same cases (slightly varying, for*

* See his Appeal.

obvious reasons, the dates, and ages of the parties, and doses of the medicine) as cures performed by the *Tincture*—for instance :—

Abridged cases of cures of Gout and Rheumatism, “as convincing proofs of the remarkable efficacy” of

THE MEDICINAL WATER.

Extracted from Dr. Wilson’s pamphlet, entitled “Observations on the Medicinal Water,” published in May, 1813, nearly in his own words.

Mr. Wright, of Yoxford (page 17) aged 27, was attacked *September 21*, 1812, with Gout in the great toe, which increasing in severity spread rapidly over the foot.—*September 23*. All the symptoms of Gout have totally disappeared by taking three quarters of a bottle of the *Medicinal Water*.

THE TINCTURE.

Extracted from Dr. Wilson’s Observations on Gout, &c. published in 1817, nearly in his own words.

Mr. Wright, of Yoxford (page 138) aged 34, was seized with a violent fit of the Gout in April, 1812. By the use of one bottle of the *Tincture* taken at bed-time, the patient in less than 48 hours was perfectly free from the Gout.

In the *autumn* of the same year (1812, aged 34) after an exposure to wet and cold, he experienced *another attack equally severe* as the former, and took a similar dose of the *Tincture*, which completely subdued the paroxysm in 24 hours.

Thus, it appears, that Mr. Wright was cured of Gout in the autumn of the *same year* both by the *Medicinal Water* and the *Tincture*; but that he was *twenty-seven* years of age when he took the Medicinal Water, and *thirty-four* when he had recourse to the Tincture, both occurring in the *autumn* of 1812!

Again:

Mr. Salmon, of Glemham (page 18) aged 60, was seized, early in the morning of January 21, 1813, in the first joint of the great toe and upper part of the foot, administered 1½ dram * of Medi-

* The Medicinal Water was sold in bottles containing three drams each.

Mr. Salmon, of Glemham (page 140) aged 64. January, 1813, was violently attacked in the left foot. Took half a bottle† of the Tincture on going to bed, and repeated it the following night, which

† The Tincture is sold in bottles of two drams each.

Medicinal Water.—January 23. Directed a second dose of the medicine.—January 24. The inflammatory and febrile symptoms are now entirely gone. The patient complains *only* of stiffness in the joints, and slight *tenderness* in walking.

April 2, 1813. Was again attacked in the left foot.—April 4. The pain was most excruciating. Took two drams of the *Medicinal Water*, in *eleven hours* after taking the medicine, the pain and inflammation were entirely gone.

occasioned a gentle perspiration during the greater part of the night, and after a few hours completely subdued all remains of the disorder.

April, 1813. Had a *similar recurrence* of Gout, and perfectly recovered from the attack in *two days* by a similar exhibition of the *Tincture*.

Thus was Mr. Salmon cured of Gout in January and April, 1813, both by the *Tincture* and the *Medicinal Water*; a clear proof that Dr. Wilson used the *Medicinal Water* *two years* after his discovery of the superior advantages of the *Tincture*!

Mr. Everitt, of Leiston, (page 19) aged 34, January 30, 1813, was seized with Gout in both feet and left knee. Took two drams of the *Medicinal Water*.—January 31. A second dose was taken.—February 1. This morning the patient is free from pain: complains *only* of *weakness* in the joints before affected, and a *slight uneasiness* in walking.

Mr. Everitt, of Leiston (page 142) aged 39, Jan. 1813, was violently attacked in both feet and knees. Took half a bottle of the *Tincture* at bed-time, and repeated it the following night. In 12 hours from the time of taking the second dose, the pains, inflammation and febrile symptoms had entirely left him. Mr. Everitt having a strong predisposition to the Gout, has *experienced repeated visits of that disorder*, especially in cold or changeable weather, upon all which occasions he has found the happiest effects from the *Tincture*.

Thus Mr. Everitt was cured at *one and the same time* of Gout, February 1, 1813, in 36 hours, both by the *Tincture* and the *Medicinal Water*! but the rapidity of time in adding five years to his age in the course of one month, happily for mankind is not exemplified in general life.

Mr. Folsham,* of Yoxford (page 21) aged 46, complains of severe pains in the larger joints of the upper and lower extremities, which are much aggravated by motion or warmth.—November, 1811. 1½ dram of the *Medicinal Water* were exhibited very late at night.—December 1. The pains in the joints continued severe till one o'clock, when the patient experienced considerable relief.—December 2. Pain, swelling, and redness completely removed from all the joints. This case was thus very successfully completed in about 36 hours after the first exhibition of the medicine.

* The letter u in Foulsham is omitted in the pamphlet.

Mr. Foulsham, of Yoxford (page 156) aged 48, was the first patient to whom the Tincture was exhibited in attack of acute Rheumatism. In November, 1811, Mr. F. was attacked with pains in the larger joints of the upper and lower extremities, greatly aggravated by motion or warmth. I directed him to take two-thirds of a bottle of the *Tincture* at eight o'clock in the evening. The pains in the joints continued with unabated severity till 12 o'clock at night, when they began to abate. In the morning of the second day Mr. F. was perfectly recovered. This case was therefore very successfully completed in about 36 hours after the first exhibition of the medicine.

Mr. Foulsham is also relieved by *two* medicines *at the same time*; but lest the identity of the case should not be sufficiently obvious, we are reminded, in *both* instances, that the success was completed in about *thirty-six* hours after the first exhibition of the medicine, in November, 1811.

Four other instances, equally similar and striking, have occurred in Dr. Wilson's two publications; but these already enumerated are sufficient proofs of the truth of my assertion.

Can it be doubted, after this comparison of the pamphlet, and the subsequent work on Gout, wherein the *same* cases are cured *at the same time* both by the Tincture and the Medicinal Water, that the *two* medicines are the *same*? And having *proved*, by an extract from Dr. Wilson's pamphlet (see note in my Preface) that the *Eau Medicinale* of Husson and the *Medicinal Water* are the *same*, it follows that the *three* medicines are also *one and the same*.

It is amusing to observe, in Dr. Wilson's publications, the use of the words "cure"* and "remedy." In medical language, and in the general acceptance of the word, *cure* means the extinction or extirpation of the disease, and remedy is nearly synonymous. But it seems, in Dr. Wilson's books, and with his medicines, that *cure* means a *transient suspension of pain*, with a recurrence and *perpetuity* of the disease, notwithstanding his saving clause extracted from Dr. Sutton's opinion, in page 45 of "Observations on Gout."

The patient, who is made happy by the nostrum to-day, in all the cases, has a speedy return of the disorder, and a greater need of the "celebrated medicine;" so that when the Doctor's Medicinal Water or Tincture is termed a "safe, speedy and *effectual* remedy," it is at variance with every case he adduces to prove the title.

Another ground for the belief that the Eau Medicinale and the Tincture are the same, is the similitude in appearance, taste, and effects. The Eau Medicinale produces a temporary suspension of pain—but it never prevents the recurrence of the disease—the same symptoms accompany the exhibition of the Tincture. Let any person read in the pamphlet of 1813, the cases of the remarkable efficacy† of "the Medicinal Water;" let him then read the cases of "unquestionable evidence‡ of the efficacy of the Tincture" in the "Observations" of 1817, and compare both with other published cases of the Eau Me-

* Dr. Wilson, in his advertisements, states that "a single dose of from 30 to 60 drops, removes the most agonizing pain of Gout and Rheumatism in a few hours, and a single repetition effectually **CURES** the complaint.

† Observations on Medicinal Water, p. 14.

‡ Observations on Gout, p. 132.

dicinale, from 1808 to 1817, and let him judge, if the very same symptoms, and precisely similar effects, have not attended each?

It is indeed true, that the pernicious and fatal effects of the Eau Medicinale, in a variety of cases, have put an end to the confidence in that nostrum—but it required years to dispel the delusion:—because the cases of temporary relief were ostentatiously and artfully displayed in advertising puffs and trading pamphlets, and the cases of its calamitous effects were studiously concealed; till medical men of reputation, who had been called upon to arrest the alarming effects of the nostrum, proclaimed the cause of the mischief. But Dr. Wilson would say, my Tincture has produced good effects in persons who had been long obliged to abandon the Eau Medicinale, either from its bad consequences, or from its ceasing to have any effect or operation. Does not every medical man withdraw a medicine when it ceases to have its due effect on an emaciated and saturated constitution, and allow an interval of suspension of such medicine, to give the constitution time to rally and revive, by which a further exhibition of the same medicine will resume its wonted effect? but, wearied and alarmed with the former consequences of the Eau Medicinale, the patient dares not recur to it, and the *pretended infallible nostrum* is substituted. For a time the *Tincture* will have powerful effects—but one effect it never produces—it *never produces a cure*. It suspends the pain—it gives temporary relief—but the disease in all cases recurs. It is probable, from Dr. Wilson's account, that with the aid of *three hundred* venders of the Tincture, for several years, six hundred or one thousand persons try it annually. From the year 1811 to 1818, twenty-four* cases only are

* Thirty-two cases are noticed in the two publications, but eight of them being *twice* detailed, the number is reduced to twenty-four.

given of a certain degree of success, that is, cases in which temporary relief has been experienced, in his own practice ! and if the instances of the success of the medicines be so numerous, why are the *same cases* adduced in both Dr. Wilson's publications, as having been cured by two different medicines at one and the same time ?

What becomes of the hundreds or thousands of cases, of which no mention is made ? Are the medicine venders remiss, or are the patients ungrateful ? The Doctor says " his correspondence is become burthensome from its extent "—troublesome and ungracious he probably finds the greater part of it—but how is it, I ask, that not a single instance is given by him of a failure, or any unusual, violent, or injurious effects in the exhibition of the tincture ?

Peter Pindar relates of a puffer of razors, that when a purchaser reproached him for the badness of the article that it would not shave ;—the razor-maker, with more wit than principle replied, I make razors to *sell* and *not* to shave.

Perhaps, as the Tincture is made to sell, a disclosure of the burthensome correspondence would counteract the main purpose of the medicine and " the secret." I do not doubt the *discretion* of the Doctor in the course he pursues ; but the medical profession, properly so denominated, will not applaud the principle.

I proceed to state those cases which have fallen under my own immediate observation, illustrative of the inefficacious, violent, and fatal effects of the Tincture.

Instance of the inefficacy of the Tincture.

Mr. —, aged 40, twelve miles from Ipswich, afflicted principally with Gout in the hand, was advised to try the Tincture, of which he took, according to the printed directions, the contents of half a bottle at bed time, repeating that quantity six successive nights, without any sensible effect whatever. He was then induced to take, at bed time, the contents of a whole bottle, which, to use his own words, “affected him no more than if he had taken so much water.”

Two other cases, in which the Tincture proved equally inefficient, might be added, but are omitted for the sake of brevity.

Instances of the violent effects of the Tincture.

Mr. —, of Ipswich, aged 50, being severely afflicted with Rheumatism in his knees and legs, took half the contents of a bottle of the Tincture, which produced, the following morning, considerable nausea; the remaining half, which was taken the subsequent night, occasioned such excessive sickness without any mitigation of the disease, and was followed by so great a degree of weakness, that he could not be persuaded to continue the use of a medicine, which, at this time, he considers to have been the chief cause of his inability to follow his business for several weeks afterwards.

Mr. —, of Ipswich, aged 50, experienced, a few months since, a severe attack of Rheumatic Gout: after an illness of three or four days, the patient was strongly inclined, at the recommendation of his friends, to try the effect of the Tincture, to which the family surgeon (with his accustomed liberality) immediately consented. He took, by measure, thirty drops at bed time, according to the printed directions, without any marked effect. The Physician saw him on the following day, and acceded to his earnest wish of repeating the medicine in a similar quantity at night, observing that he could not be answerable for its effects or consequences. The patient was shortly after attacked with the most distressing and violent sickness, which continued almost incessantly nearly two days, and without the slightest mitigation of pain or disease. The debility, which followed this second dose of the Tincture, was excessive, and operated most powerfully in retarding the patient's recovery.

Mr. —, of Stowmarket, 60 years of age, was attacked January last, with a violent purging and vomiting, which, to use the words of the respectable practitioner who attended him, “was accompanied with *frightful spasms from head to foot*.” On enquiry as to the cause of this sudden disorder, the patient acknowledged that he had taken, that morning, forty drops of Dr. Wilson's Tincture, which he had been in the habit of using nearly four years, and of which he had taken about four dozen bottles. The medical gentleman ascribed those violent and alarming symptoms (which continued for many hours) to the employment of the Tincture; which, though it had never before produced such dreadful effects, had often occasioned very unpleasant feelings both on his stomach and bowels.

Instance of the fatal effects of Dr. Wilson's Tincture.

A gentleman, lately resident in this neighbourhood, who lived plentifully, though not luxuriantly, abstained from spirits, and took but little wine, was afflicted with Gout in his hands and feet six or seven years. After repeatedly trying the Eau Medicinale with the usual relief, he flattered himself he had found, at a cheaper rate,* an adequate remedy for his malady in the Tincture. Frequently I have been accosted by the cheerful sallies of this worthy man—"Ah, Doctor! you *must* recommend Wilson's Tincture, it is the *finest remedy* in the world! I repel every attack of Gout, by applying to it whenever I feel the fit approaching. In seeing me now, you can form no idea of the miserable cripple I appeared three days since!"—"Be cautious, my good Sir, in using such dangerous recipes," was invariably my reply, "take care, lest in overcoming your disease, the enemy conquer you also." A short time after a conversation of this kind, my friend was no more! His sudden and premature death was attributed, by those who knew him well, to the deleterious effects of his favourite medicine; for, until he had recourse to the Tincture, his appearance promised health and length of days, notwithstanding he was an occasional sufferer from Gout.

* The Tincture is sold at 4s.—the Eau Medicinale at 9s. 6d. each bottle—of equal size.

These are not a garbled selection, but they are the *only* cases which have fallen under my own immediate observation, wherein the Tincture has been tried. Three or four more have been mentioned to me, but the particulars so imperfectly detailed that I shall not dwell upon them. I shall, however, introduce two or three instances in which the patients *fancy themselves cured* by Dr. Wilson's Tincture. I would be understood by this term to mean, that upon every temporary suspension of the fit, they fondly catch at the persuasion that *the finest medicine in the world* has removed the direful malady, which, in a few short weeks, perhaps scarcely so many days, invariably recurs, to remind them of the delusive hope they had indulged!

Imaginary Cures by the Tincture.

Mr —, a respectable tradesman, distant a few miles from Ipswich, 54 years of age, has lived well, though not freely, the greater part of his life, and has been subject to Gout twenty-five years.

He has used, in succession, various nostrums for the cure of Gout; and at one period was so fully persuaded of the efficacy of the Farrier's Oil, dignified, by the proprietor, with the imposing title of the Guestonian Medicine, that he not only used it himself, but strongly recommended it to all his fellow-sufferers; but, alas! the Guestonian Medicine was infallible only till it was fully tried, and at last was given up as inert or hurtful—"sed uno avulso non deficit alter aureus." Dr. Wilson's infallible specific has succeeded to fill up the vacancy in his faith, and to administer to his comforts; but with all these "appliances and means to boot," what is the present state of this true believer in nostrums? He is regularly laid up every month, sometimes oftener; and when he ventures from home, with the aid of cloth shoes and a cane, his efforts at walking are painful to himself and distressing to a spectator. Could a more miserable picture be exhibited under the natural course of the disease itself, unopposed for years by any medicine? Yet this unhappy sufferer labours with unwearied diligence to recommend this wonderful panacea to his friends and neighbours!

Mr. —, aged 46, residing some miles from Ipswich, has suffered much from Gout, especially in his hands and feet, for several years.—This gentleman has been a great admirer of every *short process* of cure, and has tried, in succession, almost every Gout nostrum. The Tincture he has now taken four years. The attacks which were formerly twice and thrice in the year, are now repeated every month or oftener, and with increased violence; in short, it may be truly stated that he is now seldom, or never free from Gout: his general health is greatly impaired; the powers of his stomach are excessively weakened, and daily becoming more so; and, for the last two years, he has been almost the constant companion of his bed, or easy chair. Yet, under these aggravated and increasing sufferings, this gentleman's faith in Dr. Wilson's Tincture remains undiminished, and he continues wilfully blind to the accumulating evidence of its pernicious tendency.

I shall mention here an instance of the *happy effects* resulting from the *discontinuance* of the Eau Medicinale; but, having already exceeded the limits I had prescribed myself, I shall produce only one case upon that subject.

Mr. —, aged 60, in the vicinity of Ipswich, lived well, but not profusely: he has been afflicted with Gout upwards of twenty years, during which time he has tried, perhaps, every advertised Gout nostrum. For some time he was a strenuous advocate for the Eau Medicinale, which, however, so injured his general health, that, whilst in the habit of taking it, he was subject to frequent, and sometimes violent attacks of Gout, attended with general debility, and considerable depression of spirits: he was, consequently, induced to discontinue the Eau Medicinale: since which time he has been gradually recovering his strength and spirits; his general health is improved; his attacks of Gout are slighter, and much less frequent; and, having happily resisted the temptations held out in Dr. Wilson's advertisements of his Tincture, he is in a fair way, to enjoy, as years advance, a renovation of health.

Having stated the proofs which confirm my opinion, that the basis or active ingredient of Dr. Wilson's Tincture,* the Medicinal Water and the Eau Medicinale, is of the same pernicious tendency, I shall name, as a farther testimony of the necessity of caution in their use, three cases (wherein the latter nostrum was administered) which have lately occurred in the practice of Dr. Bartley, a Physician, at Bristol.

"A middle-aged gentleman had been subject, from the age of one-and-twenty, to regular vernal and autumnal paroxysms of hereditary Gout. These usually confined him each time from six weeks to two months, and were attended with the most acute pain and violent inflammation of the parts affected, which generally were the feet; although sometimes the joints of the fingers were also attacked. He, fully aware of the existence of an hereditary predisposition, dreaded its influence, and endeavoured to guard against it, by abstemiously avoiding stimulants of every description; his diet therefore was simple, his beverage being nothing but pure water; and this regimen he had observed from a very early period of his life. About three years since, on the commencement of an attack, he was persuaded to try the efficacy of the *Eau Medicinale*; and, smarting under the anguish of a severe paroxysm, he complied. It is true, the relief was almost instantaneous; but this cessation of pain did not shorten the usual term of his confinement; on the contrary, it protracted its duration; for he experienced for many weeks, in the parts attacked, precisely the symptoms so accurately described by Dr. Scudamore as the effect of this remedy; namely, 'trembling, numbness, coldness, and tedious oedema;' to these I may add, considerable prostration of strength, loss of appetite, and great nervous irritability. These effects he had never before experienced. In short, an unusual length of time elapsed before he regained sufficient strength to pursue his avocations. Ever since, the paroxysms have periodically returned with the seasons; but as he did not repeat the *Eau Medicinale*, no unpleasant circumstances have supervened. I believe nothing on earth could induce him to resort to it again; accounting, as is not unfrequently the case, 'the remedy as worse than the disease.'

* Mr. —, of Woodbridge, long afflicted with the Gout, has taken, at various times, with great relief, from twenty to thirty bottles of the Eau Medicinale; but, at the request of his friends, had discontinued it some time. He has lately had recourse to two or three bottles of the Tincture, and when seized by Gout, with great alleviation of pain. In a conversation with him, a few days since, at his own house, he told me freely, without any enquiry on my part, that he found the *colour, taste, smell, and effect* of the Tincture precisely the same as those of the Eau Medicinale; and, that the similarity of the two medicines was so decidedly manifest, that even if he *saw* the Eau Medicinale, or Tincture, preparatory to taking either of them, a most unpleasant secretion of saliva followed—an effect never produced by any other medicine—and that a most copious discharge of such saliva continued invariably thirty-six hours, at least, after taking either the Tincture or Eau Medicinale.

"The next instance was a gentleman somewhat past the meridian of life. He was of a muscular and athletic form, being more than six feet high. He had long suffered from severe paroxysms of the Gout; to which, I believe, he also was hereditarily predisposed. He had been accustomed to use much exercise, being very fond of the chase; but even this failed to repel the assaults of his inveterate enemy.—Almost as soon as the medicine in question was introduced into this kingdom, he made an experiment of its virtues, which answered his warmest expectations in freeing him from pain. Subsequently, on any recurrence of the disorder, he applied to his favourite remedy, which never failed to afford ease. In this plan he persisted for many years without experiencing any other distressing symptoms than unusual debility and occasional loss of appetite. But within the last two years these symptoms increased, and were followed by frequent aberrations of mind, with indolence and inaptitude to motion. Shortly afterwards mania supervened, to which no hereditary predisposition could be traced. He was consequently placed in confinement, whence he has been lately liberated on appearance of amendment; but he still continues a deplorable spectacle of bodily as well as mental imbecility; which state his friends, I think, fairly attribute to the Gout remedy.

"I subjoin one more proof, a fatal one. A gentleman was long afflicted with frequent attacks of the Gout, to which he had patiently submitted without seeking a remedy, until he was advised to try the *Eau Medicinale*. One dose relieved his pain so much, that he resolved to set out on a journey he had previously meditated. He did so; and on the second day after his departure, he was seized with apoplexy, which speedily terminated his existence. There was no marked predisposition to that affection in the *forma corporis*, nor was he inclined to obesity, although not of a spare habit."

I shall not detain the reader further than by a few incidental remarks connected with the preceding subjects, and naturally arising from them.

My principal view in throwing together these facts and observations, is to expose Empiricism, and to call the attention of the Gouty and Rheumatic subject to the baneful experiments made on his constitution by the exhibition of pretended infallible nostrums:—if I deter only half a dozen invalids from resorting to these pernicious drugs, I shall conceive myself instrumental in saving, from permanent injury, so many constitutions.

That numberless lives have been sacrificed, and are daily sacrificing by these greedy advertisers of nostrums, no man of sense and honour

will deny. That "secrecy" in these mischievous drugs is studiously preserved, from a fear of detection and ignominy, no person can doubt. That *Brodum* and *Solomon*, and such adventurers, should prey on the public, no man can feel surprised. It is true that empiricism increases disease and augments invalids; but the regular physician, or respectable medical practitioner, owes it to himself, to his profession, and to the public, to exert himself to detect and expose quackery in every shape in which it fattens on the misery and credulity of mankind.

I cannot but animadvert upon the secrecy which Dr. Wilson continues to preserve respecting the composition of his Medicinal Water, notwithstanding the "*perfect detestation*" in which he is pleased to say he holds "the *secrecy of empiricism*," and the regret he feels at not obtaining "a general and uniform approbation of" his "*motive*."* Shall we doubt such a virtuous avowal? For, in the same page, he tells us, that "the time may and will arrive," when his "*learned* correspondents will," he trusts, "be satisfied on this point," and requests "a *little extension* of their *patience*." Nearly *seven* years have since elapsed, and *still* the secret is inviolably preserved! Can any sensible or candid man assign a reason for its continuance, except that the secret of the Medicinal Water is the secret of the Tincture?†

Whenever Dr. Wilson satisfactorily points out to the public, the ingredients of the Medicinal Water, or Eau Medicinale, I undertake to make known those of the Tincture.

* Observations on the Medicinal Water, p. 4.

† Or, that the Doctor finds it more convenient, to continue receiving the profits of the medicine, than to divulge its composition. Besides, it is well known from the history of quackery, that many

To comment on the lofty-spirited specimen of professional etiquette, with which Dr. Wilson concludes his “appeal,” would indicate a suspicion, that a doubt could exist as to the feelings, with which every man must read such a medical novelty, from a person styling himself a Physician;—were this practice to become general, the profession would cease to be a profession of honour, and would be reduced to a class of mercenary hawkers and salesmen.

When cupidity of remuneration gains an ascendancy over the just pride of fame, and the honourable ardour of conferring a public good, the mind becomes less scrupulous about the channel, by which its appetite is gratified. There is, and ought to be, only one principle and one stimulus with a regular physician—which is to support the respectability of his profession by learning and liberality,—and to receive the reward of his researches, his discoveries and labours, from the honour of a just reputation, and the income of legitimate practice:—his publications should be the channels of science, and not the vehicle of compilations, of plagiarism, and catalogues of venders of medicines, and of the towns and villages in which they reside:—his discoveries should be added to the common stock of science, from which he derived his own education and the capacity of becoming useful.

Many of Dr. Wilson’s readers will doubtless be disposed to give him great credit for “the *long series of laborious and expensive experi-*

ments, which have supported a high character for a considerable time, have sunk into complete insignificance, when their composition has been made known.

* Dr. Wilson’s Tincture is advertised to be sold in two hundred and twenty towns, besides London, where, alone, eleven agents are appointed to sell it.

m^{én}ts,” which he notices, page 73, in his Observations on Gout, as having led to the discovery of his Tincture;—but such a *tedious* process was by no means necessary;—for a *slight continental connection*, even during war, might have furnished him very readily with a knowledge of the composition, by a *much more certain* and less circuitous method:—in other words, the receipt of the Eau Medicinale might have been *bought* in 1811,—for it is a fact, well known, that its ephemeral fame had passed away in France, and that the nostrum, at that period, had ceased to be of any value to the proprietors.*

It would really be too ridiculous to suppose Dr. Wilson serious, wherein he hints at the propriety of Parliament† rewarding the discoverer of the Tincture.

When Doctor Jenner received, through Parliament, the reward of

* See the following letter written to a gentleman in England, by Mous. Mennret—I believe, about this time:—

“SIR—I eagerly embrace the opportunity of communicating any thing which may afford you pleasure. I have made, but without success, every possible enquiry to discover the author and the *dépôt* of the Eau Medicinale d’Husson, which you desire for your Gouty friend. Whether from the well-founded disrepute of the medicine, or from the intentions of government against unknown medicines, *the author has disappeared, and neither he nor his medicine is to be found in the various houses, from which he has successively announced them.* I ought to add, that (after the enquiries which, from the interest you take in them, I have been induced to make) this *pretended* Gout medicine is a sharp and violent purgative, which has been of use to some few phlegmatic persons, but has produced the *most pernicious effects to the greater part of those* who have used it. I have thought it right not to delay communicating this information, in order to prove my readiness to serve you, and nothing shall hinder me from continuing my enquiries, to give you (if possible) more ample satisfaction.

“Your very humble and obedient Servant,

(Signed)

“M^{EN}URET, Physician.”

† Two sources of compensation are only open to me—the government of the country, or the people at large;—that the former mode requires a parliamentary interest, which I do not possess, and a pecuniary sacrifice which I am unequal to make.—*Observations on Gout*, p. 75.

a mighty benefit, conferred on mankind by his honourable labours,—this national compensation was not given as the purchase of a *secret remedy*, but as the merited reward bestowed by a great nation,—for the exertion of genius in the attainment of a momentous truth,—and for persevering industry and fortitude, in giving a disinterested publicity to an incalculable benefit !

Jenner affected no secret,—he deluded by no mystery,—he left that mode of livelihood to *Solomon* and *Brodum* ; he made no trading speculation,—he left that sort of traffic to patentees of articles, for the pleasure or ornament of man ;—he considered that a discovery, which nearly concerned the happiness of his fellow-creatures—which related to the dearest possession of man,—LIFE and HEALTH,—was a sort of public property ;—at least, an acceptable gift, due from a member of an honourable and liberal profession, to a public always generous and grateful.

FINIS.

